



NORTHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1945

February, 1946.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Northampton Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1945.

During the year the war has ended, and a very strenuous effort has been and is being made by all the members of the staff on getting in motion a building programme for the district. Sites have had to be found, prepared for building, and contracts entered into for erecting the houses. Numerous plans too have been made of houses of various types. All this has entailed long hours of work by the various members of the Staff.

With all this future increase in numbers of houses, water has had to be thought of to supply them. During the past few years there has been a deficient rainfall, and wells and springs have sunk to dangerously low levels, failing to give a reasonable supply of water to the present inhabitants. A big scheme will have to be produced to supply all deficiencies and to ensure a certain and full supply of water to all inhabitants throughout the district. With this increased supply of water, many villages will require a proper sanitary system putting in.

Area (in acres)	50,010
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Registrar General's estimate of:-

(a) Resident Population, Mid. 1939	15,760
(b) Average population appropriate to the calculation of death rates	17,350

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1945) according to rate books	4,980
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Rateable Value, 31st December, 1945	£ 119,729
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Product of Id. Rate, 1945/46	£ 521 17 7
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Live births total 246 - male 131 female 115	
Legitimate - male 121 female 100	
Illegitimate - male 10 female 15	

Still births total 6 - male 2 female 4	
Legitimate - male 2 female 3	
Illegitimate - male - female 1	

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population -	13.8
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population for England and Wales -	16.1

Deaths total 190 - male 98 female 92	
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population -	10.9
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population for England and Wales -	11.4

There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis or other puerperal causes.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age - male 5 female 3	
Legitimate - male 5 female 2	
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Deaths from Cancer (all ages) - 28 - Male 16 female 12
 There were no deaths from Measles or Whooping Cough.
 Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) - Male - female 1
 Suicide - 2 - Male - female 2
 Road Traffic Accidents - 2 - Male 1 female 1
 Other Violent causes - Male 5 female 1

Nephritis 1 male, 8 female; Diabetes 1 female; Cerebral
 Haemorrhage 6 male, 10 female; Heart Disease 24 male,
 22 female; Other disease of Circulatory system 8 male,
 2 female; Bronchitis 8 male, 6 female; Pneumonia 4 male,
 3 female; Influenza 1 male, 3 female.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

- (i) Medical Officer of Health. H. F. Persival, O.B., B.A., M.R.C.S.,
 L.R.C.P.
 Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor. R. J. Miller, A.I.A.S., A.R. San.I.
 Assistants. E. H. Obrey, M.R. San.I. (Resigned
 May 1945)
 C. R. Rhodes, M.R. San.I. (Appointed
 January 1945)

- (ii) (a) Laboratory facilities are still being carried on at the Northampton
 General Hospital Laboratory.
 (b) Ambulance Services. St. John Ambulance removes all ordinary civil
 cases.

Hospitals.

Northampton General Hospital is available for all types of Medical,
 Surgical and Maternity cases.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply.

ASHTON	Council's main supply. See Hartwell.
BILLING	Supplied by Northampton Corporation mains.
BRAFIELD	Supplied now almost entirely from the spring supply noted in my 1938 Report, but it is a source rapidly failing to meet the ever increasing demand.
BUGBROOKE	Except for the 70 Council Houses at Butts Hill, supplied now either from the Harpole or Kislingbury source, the rest of the village relies inadequately on wells.
CASTLE ASHBY	Private mains supply of the Compton Estates Company.
COGENHOE	No mains supply.
COLLINGTREE	No mains supply.
COURTEENHALL	Private mains supply of Courteenhall Estates.
DENTON	Council's mains supply, but the well has failed to stand up to the demand, and a scheme for augmentation is in hand.
DUSTON	Supplied by Northampton Corporation mains, but pressure at the higher levels is very poor.

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Practically all the measles cases occurred in the first quarter of the year. There has been no other excessive amount of infectious disease.

There was one case of puerperal pyrexia; one case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was transferred from St. John's Hospital, Weston Favell, to Northampton General Hospital.

The Diphtheria case was a very doubtful one in a child of 2.

Tuberculosis.

<u>Age Periods.</u>	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS</u>			
	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
15	3	1	-	-	1	3	-	-
25	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
45	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTAL	10	6	1	-	1	5	1	-

The number of children under 15 years of age who have completed a full course of immunisation between the years 1941 and 1945 inclusive was 3113.

Yours faithfully,

H. F. PERCIVAL.

